



SUSSEX COUNTY QUICK LOOK

DELAWARE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

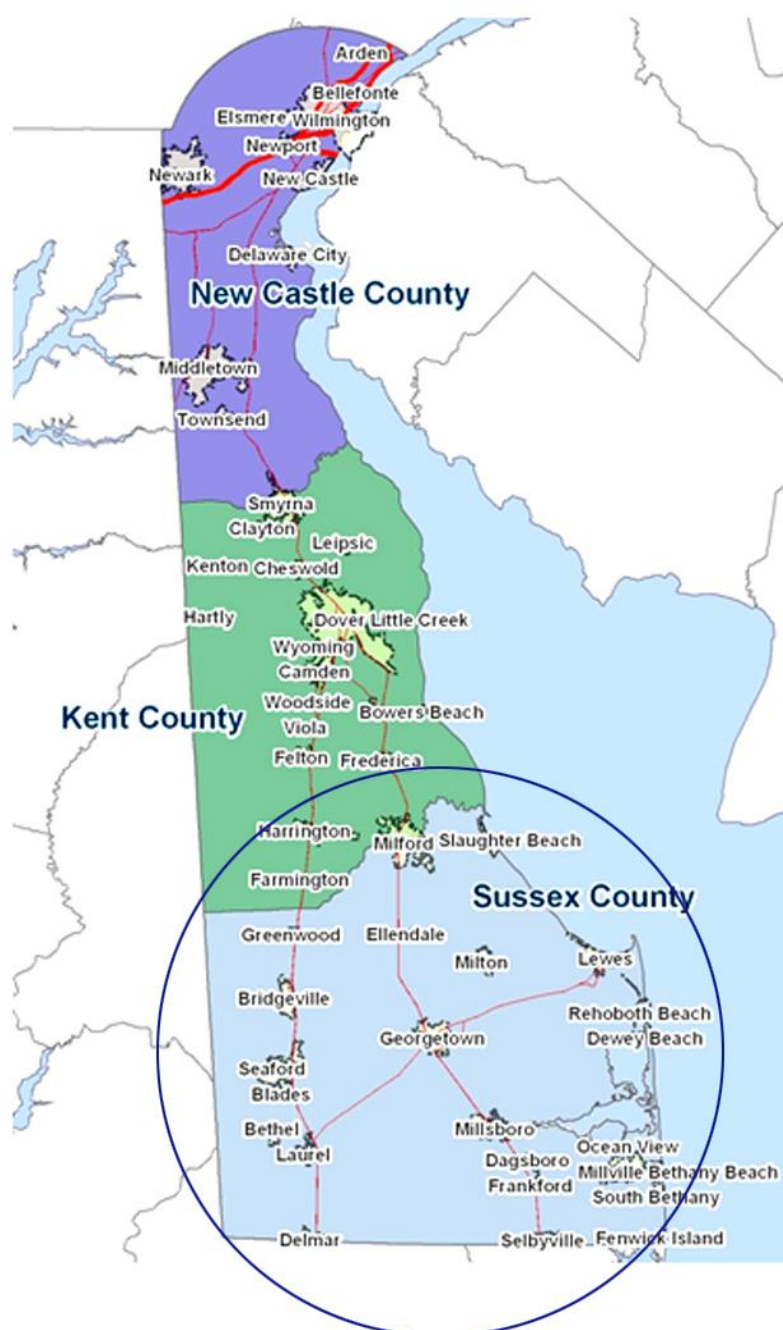
Right Place. Right Size.

Prepared September 2014



A Quick Look at Sussex County

Sussex County is best known for its pristine white beaches, unique towns and lush farmland. The southern most county of Delaware is rich in historical charm, arts and culture and state parks filled with waterfowl and wildlife. The primary industry is tourism, but the county is well balanced in all other areas of business. Western Sussex County is the hub of Delaware's agriculture industry with more acres of land under cultivation than anywhere else in the State.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR DELAWARE



#1

Business Friendliness,

America Top States for Business 2014, CNBC

Economic Output per Job,

Enterprising States 2014,
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Bond Rating,

13th Annual State Competitiveness Report,
Beacon Hill Institute, 2013

Productivity and Labor Supply,

2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship Score Card

Economic Freedom at All-Government Level among U.S. states,

Economic Freedom of North America 2013, Fraser Institute

Legal Systems

for the ninth consecutive year,
2012 State Liability Systems Ranks, Institute for Legal Reform,
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

2

Digital Connectivity, 2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship Score Card

Business Incubation, 13th Annual State Competitiveness Report, Beacon Hill Institute, 2013

3

Incoming Foreign Direct Investment per Capita, 13th Annual State Competitiveness Report, Beacon Hill Institute, 2013

4

High-Tech Share of All Business, Enterprising States 2014, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Business Costs, 2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship Score Card

5

New Startup Rate,
Enterprising States 2014,
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

**Employed S&E Doctorate Holders
as a Percentage of the Workforce,**
S&E Indicators 2014,
National Science Foundation

6

STEM Jobs Concentration,
Enterprising States 2014,
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Broadband Speed Availability,
Enterprising States 2014,
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Entrepreneurial Change,
2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship
Score Card

7

**Openness, 13th Annual State
Competitiveness Report,**
Beacon Hill Institute, 2013

State Entrepreneurial Sensitivity,
2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship
Score Card

8th **Government and Fiscal Policy,** 13th Annual State Competitiveness Report, Beacon Hill Institute, 2013

9th **Export Growth,** Enterprising States 2014, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

12th **Business Tax Climate,** Enterprising States 2014, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

13th **State Business Climate,** The 2014 Tax Foundation's Index

13th **Entrepreneurial Vitality,** 2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship Score Card

14th **Short-Term Job Growth and Productivity Growth,** Enterprising States 2014, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

14th **Post-Secondary Education,** 2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship Score Card

14th **Civic Energy and Harmony,** 2014 Michigan Entrepreneurship Score Card

16th **Bridge Quality,** Enterprising States 2014, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

**Wilmington overall is in the
top 10 micro American cities
for the future 2013/14**

**3rd in the category of
economic potential,**
Foreign Direct Investment
Magazine, 2013/14

DELAWARE'S ECONOMY RANKINGS

Indicator	Rank
Overall	2
Information Technology Jobs	3
Managerial Professional and Technical Jobs	9
Immigration of Knowledge Workers	4
Migration of US Knowledge Workers	12
Manufacturing Value Added	7
High-Wage Traded Services	1
Export Focus of Manufacturing and Services	6
Foreign Direct Investment	1
Job Churning	13
Fast Growing Firms	8
Broadband Telecommunications	10
Health IT	25
High-Tech Jobs	13
Scientists and Engineers	7
Patents	3
Industry Investment in R&D	1

Source: The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, The 2014 State New Economy Index



LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Labor Force, July 2014	97,720
Unemployment Rate, July 2014	5.3%

Source: DE Department of Labor, not seasonally adjusted

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT, 1st QUARTER 2014

Industry	# of Firms	Average Employment
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	93	691
Utilities	10	358
Construction	738	3,934
Manufacturing	158	9,491
Wholesale trade	297	1,477
Retail trade	991	10,994
Transportation and warehousing	191	1,306
Information	59	475
Finance and insurance	259	1,609
Real estate and rental and leasing	252	1,231
Professional and technical services	506	1,787
Management of companies and enterprises	20	168
Administrative and waste services	366	2,913
Educational services	33	144
Health care and social assistance	697	10,178
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	100	785
Accommodation and food services	639	8,032
Other services, except public administration	382	2,149
Total Government	130	8,213
Total Industries	5,921	65,936

Source: Dept of Labor, QCEW 1st Quarter 2014

POPULATION

Census 2010:	197,145
Annual estimate, 2014 Estimate:	207,646

Source: Census Bureau and DemographicsNow

INCOME

Median Household:	\$51,472
Per capita income:	\$28,386

Source: DemographicsNow, 2014 Annual Estimates

CLIMATE

Normal daily mean temperature:	54.4° F.
Average monthly temperature	From 33 ° F in the winter to 77° F in the summer
Median annual precipitation:	42.95 inches

Source: Office of the Delaware State Climatologist



AIRPORTS

Sussex County Airport in Georgetown is the major airport in the lower county. It features a 5,500 ft. main runway and 175 acre industrial park. It is strategically located within a half-day's drive of entire mid-Atlantic region. The other is Laurel Airport. Delaware's network of public and private airports can readily accommodate commercial and corporate aircraft. The New Castle County, Baltimore-Washington International, and Philadelphia International airports are less than two hours away from most locations in Sussex County.

RAIL SERVICE

Norfolk-Southern (Industrial Service) runs through Sussex County. It has a direct link to the Sussex County airport. Other rail service, such as Amtrak passenger service is available in Northern Delaware and is convenient for Sussex County. It has more than 80 trains per weekday that provides frequent service to Washington, DC, Richmond, New York and Boston. Also, SEPTA commuter rail service connecting southeastern Pennsylvania to northern Delaware, can be accessed by Sussex County residents, as well.

DART FIRST STATE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE

The service is operated by Delaware Transit Corporation, a Division of DeIDOT. It provides a full range of fixed bus routes, paratransit, commuter rail and related services. All DART buses are wheelchair accessible and bike rack equipped.

PORT OF WILMINGTON

Sussex County is relatively close to the Port of Wilmington, which is located at the mouth of the Christina River, approximately 65 miles from Atlantic shipping lanes. The Port offers 4,000' marginal berthing with a 38-foot project depth. The Port is located within one-quarter mile of Interstate 495 for immediate access to East Coast markets, and is 25 miles from I-76, one of the region's major east/west arteries. Rail access to the Port is available via Norfolk Southern with railcar loading docks located next to terminal warehouses.

HIGHWAYS

State Route 1, the largest project in the history of the Delaware Department of Transportation, is the primary N/S artery running through Eastern Sussex. Sussex County's primary north/south roads are Routes 113, 13, and 5. The main east/west roadways are Routes 9, 24, 26, and 404.

Delaware's network of highways includes Interstates 95, 295, 495; U.S. Highways 13, 113, 301, 202, and 9 as well as well-maintained primary and secondary roads.



TAX RATES

No Sales Tax at state or local level. No Personal Property Tax at state or local level

Local Property Tax Rates

No state property tax levied. Property taxes in Delaware are set and administered on a local level by school district. The following are rates per \$100 of assessed value by school district:

School District	Incorporated Area	Unincorporated Area
Cape Henlopen	\$3.8979-\$6.3019	\$3.6819
Delmar	\$5.0343	\$4.5143
Indian River	\$3.6179-\$6.5879	\$3.4479
Laurel	\$4.6939-\$6.5839	\$4.2939
Milford	\$4.7519-\$5.7919	\$4.2919
Seaford	\$4.3749-\$5.4649	\$4.0649
Woodbridge	\$6.1949-\$6.3949	\$4.3949

State Corporate Income Tax: 8.7%

State Gross Receipts Tax:

Manufacturing - 0.126% (First \$1.25 million in receipts per month not taxable)

Auto manufacturers - 0.0945% (First \$1.25 million in receipts per month not taxable)

Clean energy technology device manufacturer - 0.0945% (First \$1.25 million in receipts per month not taxable)

Wholesalers - 0.3983% within Delaware (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)

Food processors - 0.1991% (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)

Commercial feed dealers - 0.0996% (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)

Retailers - 0.7468% (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)

Restaurants - 0.6472% (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)

Farm machinery retailers - 0.0996% (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)

Grocery supermarket retailers - 0.3267% (First \$100,000 per month not taxable)



Individual Income Tax:

DE Taxable Income	Tax Liability
\$0 - \$2,000	\$0.00% of income
\$2,000 - \$5,000	\$0.00 + 2.20% of income > \$2,000
\$5,000 - \$10,000	\$66.00 + 3.90% of income > \$5,000
\$10,000 - \$20,000	\$261.00 + 4.80% of income > \$10,000
\$20,000 - \$25,000	\$741.00 + 5.20% of income > \$20,000
\$25,000 - \$60,000	\$1,001.00 + 5.55% of income > \$25,000
\$60,000 and over	\$2,943.50 + 6.6% of income > \$60,000

Effective 01/01/2014

UTILITIES

Electricity:

Service is provided by Delmarva Power and the Delaware Electric Cooperative. In addition, some individual municipalities provide electric service for residents and companies located within their jurisdiction.

Gas:

The gas service provider in Sussex County is Chesapeake Utilities Corporation.

Water/Wastewater:

The State has adequate surface water and ground water to meet the projected demand for fresh water. Ground water is used exclusively south of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal for drinking water supply.

Sewer service is generally available in the incorporated areas of the state. This service is provided on the local level, either by individual municipalities or the county.

Telecommunications:

The telephone service in Sussex County is available from numerous large providers, such as Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, and Comcast. Information technology in Sussex County is also undergoing a major expansion of high-speed access. The expansion of broadband will allow for an increase in access speed from 1.5 MB to potentially 10 GB.



EDUCATION

Educational attainment represents the highest level of education completed for the population age 25 and above. The completion rate for high school graduates and higher was 87.5%. For bachelor degree and higher, it was 20.7%.

Public school districts	7 (41 schools)
Charter schools:	1
Total public & charter schools enrollment:	25,294

*Source: DE Department of Education, 2012-2013
Does not include home and private schools*

Colleges and Universities:

Beebe School of Nursing

Delaware Technical and Community College

University of Delaware

Wilmington University



SITE SELECTION

Business and Industrial Parks:

The parks are defined as properties which are zoned accordingly, plotted and served by utilities with infrastructure to borders. The following are business and industrial parks in Sussex County:

- King Farm Industrial Park, Georgetown
- Ross Business Park, Seaford
- Seaford Industrial Park, Seaford
- Selbyville Industrial Park, Selbyville
- Sussex County Industrial Airpark, Georgetown

Office and Other Available Sites

The Delaware Economic Development Office utilizes the CoStar Group computerized database for property searches. This database is constantly updated so that we may show you the most accurate property listings available.

RECREATION AND THE ARTS

Major outdoor recreation attractions include miles of Atlantic Ocean beaches, including three beach state parks and numerous seaside towns. Other outdoor areas include Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge and several state and county parks, wildlife areas and nature preserves, as well as ponds and lakes.

Tax-free shopping is available throughout the county in regional malls, designer brand name outlet malls, shopping centers, markets, and the downtown districts of major towns.

Rehoboth Beach is commonly known as the “Nation’s Summer Capital”. Points of historical interest can be found throughout the county from Delaware’s oldest settlement in Lewes to the Victorian homes of Laurel, and include numerous towns and historical sites.

Attractions in Sussex County include museums, art festivals, former shipbuilding sites, historical landmarks, charter fishing, golfing and award winning restaurants. Descriptions of most of these recreational attractions plus special events may be found online at www.visitdelaware.com



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All inquiries treated in strict confidence